

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JAKART 03847 301229 Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DPW-01 IO-12 PRS-01 L-03 RSR-01

/102 W

----- 063756

R 301011 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6269

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USDEL FRANCE

DIA

S E C R E T JAKARTA 3847

NOFORN

EO11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, VN, ID

SUBJ: INDONESIAN OFFICER S' ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION IN VIETNAM

1. MAJOR GEMQAL M C SUHUD, J-1( INTELLIGENCE) HANKAM ( DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND SECURITY) AND HIS FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE DIVISION CHIEF, COLONEL NASRUN, HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM ONE WEEK VISIT TO SOUTH VIETNAM TO ASSESS SITUATION WITH INDONESIAN MEMBERS OF ICCS. SUHUD AND NASRUN TOLD DATT AND AARMA THAT THEY WERE MOST PESSIMISTIC ABOUT PROSPECTS IN VIETNAM.

2. MAJOR GENERAL SUHUD BELIEVED COMMUNISTS WOULD HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OF VIETNAM WITHIN A YEAR. HE STATED COMMUNISTS ALREADY HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE HIGHLANDS AND MOST OF THE COUNTRYSIDE THROUGHOUT SOUTH VIETNAM. THE PICTURE PAINTED BY INDON ICCS PERSONNEL IN VIETNAM WAS VERY BLEAK. INDON OFFICERS SAID THEY WERE ABLE TO MOVE ON THE ROADS FREELY ONLY BECAUSE THE VIET CONG PERMITTED THEM TO DO SO. GENERAL SUHUD CLAIMED THE VIETCONG SUCCESSES WERE GREAT BECAUSE THEY WERE SIMULTANEOUSLY

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 JAKART 03847 301229 Z

WAGING WAR ON BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL FRONTS. BOTH THESE ACTIONS WERE CLOSELY COORDINATED AND COMPLEMENTARY, AND, HE ADDED, VERY SUCCESSFUL. HE STATED THAT PRESIDENT THIEU, ON OTHER HAND, WAS ONLY WAGING A POLITICAL WAR AND WAS MAINLY CONCERNED ABOUT HIS REELECTION, CONSEQUENTLY, GENERAL SUHUD BELIEVED SOUTH VIETNAM FORCES ARE LOSING AND WILL CONTINUE TO LOSE ON THE MILITARY FRONT AND IN THE END WILL LOSE ON THE POLITICAL FRONT AS WELL.

3. GENERAL SUHUD SAID HE FOUND SOUTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS TO BE VERY DESPONDENT AND POORLY MOTIVATED. VIET CONG, ON OTHER HAND, ARE OPTIMISTIC, HIGHLY MOTIVATED AND MAKING TREMENDOUS HEADWAY IN TAKING OVER ALL OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

4. COMMENT: WHILE THESE OFFICERS' VIEWS STRIKE US AS UNDULY PESSIMISTIC, OFFICERS HAD CLEARLY TRAVELED WIDELY AND STUDIED SITUATION CAREFULLY. THEIR REPORT WILL GET SERIOUS CONSIDERATION IN GOI CIRCLES. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO INDICATION GOI CONSIDERING WITHDRAWING FROM ICCS.  
GALBRAITH

SECRET

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VN  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973JAKART03847  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** JAKARTA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730344/aaaaiqgw.tel  
**Line Count:** 89  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EAP  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <06-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980121  
**Subject:** INDONESIAN OFFICER S' ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION IN VIETNAM  
**TAGS:** MILI, ID  
**To:** DIA  
EA  
FRANCE  
OTTAWA  
SAIGON  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005